The possibility of Pakistan's nuclear programme having a military dimension would naturally be a matter of serious concern for India. Government are keeping a dose watch on all developments having a bearing on India's security.

U.N„ Conference on the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace

@1084. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Wll the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) what progress has been made regarding the proposed United Nations Conference on the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace;

(b) wheather any new initiative has been taken to have an early United Nations Conference and whether any discussion was held with Sri Lanka President in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) There has been little significant change in the position since reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2697 of 16th December, 1983. Two sessions of the UN *Ad hoc* Committee on Indian Ocean have since been held, the most recent having taken place from 9th to 20th July, 1984. The items discussed at the latest session *inter alia* included the draft agenda and draft rules of proceure for the propose Conference. Given the continue opposition by some countries to the finalisation of the dates of the Conference, no substantial progress could be achieved. The next session of the *Ad hoc* Committee is expected to be held prior to the consideration of this item at the 39th UNGA Session later this year.

(b) and (c) A draft framework of the Agenda for the proposed Conference, now under discussion, was a result of the efforts of the Nonaligned countries and was submitted at the March, 1984 session of the *Ad hoc* Committee

The subject of the proposed UN Conference on the Indian Ocean was not discussed during the recent visit to India of the Sri Lankan President, Shri J. R. Jaawadene.

Talks on border dispute with China

@@1085. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV:
SHRIMATl AMARJIT KAUR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state-.

(a) whether any date has been fixed for the next round of talks with China on border dispute between the two countries-,

(b) whether the agenda for the meeting has been decided and where the meeting is proposed to be held; and

(c) what progress has so far been made for solving this dispute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir. The next round of official level talks between India and China is scheduled to commence from September 17, 1984.

(b) Though the agenda has yet to be formalised, it is expected to follow the past pattern and cover, besides the boundary question, other aspects of bilateral relations as well. The next round of talks will be held in Beijing.

(c) Four rounds of official level talks have already been held and as the House has been informej on earlier occasions, both sides have so far set forth their respective stands on the boundary question. In the fourth round, an attempt was made to evolve a set of common principles derived from the earlier discussions. These common principles were intended to be

©Previously Unstarred Question No. 618, transferred from the 27th July, 1984.

@ (^Previously Unstarred Question No 626, transferred from the 27th July, 1984.